POETRY.

MATRIMONY.

The following lay for the ladies must be read by lines in this manner-first, third, second, and irth. If any gentlemen, whose addresses have en rejected, wish to rail against marriage, they ge written.

That man must lead a happy life, Who's free from matrimonial chains, Who is directed by a wife, Is sure to suffer for his pains.

Adam could find ne-colid peace, When Eve was given or a mate, Until he saw a woman's sice, Adam was in a happy state:

In all, the female face appears Hyporrisy, deceit and pride, Truth, darling of a heart sincere, No'er known in woman to reside.

What tongue is able to unfold, The falsehoods that in woman dwell, The worth in woman we behold, Is almost imperceptible.

Down with the foolish man I say, Who changes from his singleness, Who will not yield to woman's sway; Is sure of perfect blessedness.

"GUEST'S FROM GIBBET-ISLAND." Is the title of one of Irving's most felicitet stories in the October Knickerbocker. It describes 'The Wild Goose,' a piratical tavern, kept in the olden time, in Communipaw, by a freebooter. 'Vanderscamp, by name; and a real scamp by nature.' The different characters have all the faithfulness of a picture. The old negro Pluto, for example, is a study for an artist. The following incident is recorded of Vanderscamp and his said companion :

It happened late one night, that Yan Yost Vanderscamp was returning across the broad bay, in his light skiff, rowed by his man Plute. He had been carousing on board of a vessel, newly arrived, and was somewhat obfuscated in intellect, by the liquor he had imbibed. It was a still sultry night, a heavy mass of lurid clouds was rising in the west, with the low muttering of distant thunder. Vanderseamp called on Pluto to pull lustily, that they might get home before the gathering storm, the old negro made no choras of Gibbet-island. A faint creaking over head, caused Vanderscamp to cast up his eyes, when, to his horror, he beheld the bodies of his three pot companions and brothers in iniquity dangling in the moonlight, the regs fluttering,

and their chains creaking, as they were slowly away backward by the rising breeze.

'What do you mean, you blockhead!' cried Vanderscamp, 'by pulling so close to the is-1 thought you'd be glad to see your old

friends, once more, growled the negro; 'you were never afraid of a living man, what do you fear from the dead 1'

ly heated by liquor, partly netted by the jear of the hung over the crowded room. The the negro; who's afraid! Hang me, but I would the victim. But heater death than image of the victim. But heater death than image of the victim. the negro; who sarraid many me, but he victim. But better death than imported to see them once more alive or dead, at the victim. But better death than imported to see them once more alive or dead, at prisonment. Think you I could bear ten the cross examination, and his causaged to and fro, looking indifferently on or with partial interest in cause, and on or with to you in the other world; if you should be walking the rounds to-night, odds fish but? I'll be happy if you will drop in to supper.'

A dismal creaking was the only reply.—The wind blew foud and shrill, and as it whistled round the gallows, and among the bones, sound ed as it they were laughing and gibbering in the air. Old Pluto chuckeld to himself, and now pulled for home. The storm burst over the voyagers, while they were yet far from shore. The rain fell in torrents, the thunder crashed and pealed, and the lightning kept up an incessant blaze. It was dark midnight, before they landed at Communipaw.

Dripping and shivering, Vanderscamp crawl-

ed homeward. He was completely sobered by ing diluted and cooled the liquor within. Ar rived at the Wild Goose, he knocked timidly and dubiously at the door, for he dreaded the recep tion he was to experience from his wife. H had reason to do so. She met him at the thresh

hold, in a precious ill hu nor.

'Is this a time,' said she, 'to keep people or of their beds, and to bring home company, to

'Company?' said- Vanderscamp meekly: have brought no company with me, wife. 'No indeed I they have got here before you but by your invitation; and blessed looking com pany they are, trule!'

Vanderscamp's knees smote together. - 'Fo

the love of heaven where are they wifel' Where !- why in the blue room, up stairs, making themselves as much at home as it the

house were their own. Vauderscamp made a desperate effort, scramb ling up to the room, and throw open the door. Sure enough, there at a table, on which burne a light as blue as brimstone, sat the three guests from Gibbet - Island with halters round their necks, and bobbing their cups together, as if they were hob-or-nobbing, and trolling the old Dutch freebooter's glee, since translated into English:

'For three merry lads be we, And three merry lads be we ; I on the land, and thou on the sand, And Jack on the gallows-tren.

Van lerecamp -aw and heard no moore. Starting with horror, he missed his footing on the landing place, and fell from the tep of the stairs to the bottom. He was taken up speechless, and, either from the fall or fright, was burried in the vard of the little Duten church at Bergen on the following Sunday.

From that day forward, the fate of the Wild Goose was sealed. It was pronounced a haunted house, and avoided accordingly. No one inhabited it but Vanderscamp's shrew of a widow, and old Pluto, and they were considered but litthe better than its hobgoblin visiters. Plutograw hour for the opening of the Court, the gainst him, but we dwell upon the dans prisoner's connection with such a crime, more and more haggard and morese, and looked more like an imp of darkness than a human being. He spoke to no one, but went about muttering to himself; or, as some hinted, talking with tering to himself, or, as some hinted, taking with and hovel, they poured along, rich and ever entertained. But why continues reasonable doubt that a murder was The man looked undecidedly around from allow. Now and then he was seen pulling a poor, happy and misserable, old and I well remember the impression my bout the bay alone, in his skiff in dark weather or at the approach of night fall; nobody could unless on an arrand to invite more guests from the gallows,

PORT FOLIO.

Fell demon of our fears! The human soul, That can support despeir, supports not thee!

THE MURDER TRIAL.

ly to the destiny I cannot avert. But I tear. crush/ed ?"?

innocence."

and it shall be the last; Yet it is a ter- stage. rible thing to feel that a few days will The testimony was the same as on Though her sweet eyes swam with tears consign you either to a premature grave the examination, except in identifying they were those of confidence and joy, or a living death I see you shake your the body. All the witnesses at first rather than of sorrow. head, but you deceive yourself you can- swore positivly to its being that of Mr. Who's afraid? niccupped Vanderscamp, part- not deceive me. What room is there Wilson. One of them had done othjoy, never to listen to the sound of a and your very friends forget you live. is breaking, to hear that she has died, say thatand not even to press a last kiss on her burying his face in his hands while his frame shook convulsively with emotion. "that I should live to su er this!"

ing to behold a woman's anguish, but is errible to see a strong man struggling, break. I shall never forget the firm, say before that so far from knowing this ause he continued .-

"But let us forget this scene. I have Mary-poor,-poor,-poor Mary!"

The day of the trial came at length.

the village of _____ that being pers. the country town; and such an exciteengaged for the prosecution, and such bolt through my heart.

ured, especially about the face, and in was not so in this. The calm, noble, human voice again, cut off from friends, a state of decomposition, -now can self-conducted bearing tof the accused, from character; and the world, until the you swear, on your oath, that the fear and the gentle, yet touching looks of his eyes grow dim, the hair grows grey, tures were those of the missing man?" The witness quailed beneath his

And then to know that your wife's heart glance, and answered that he could not bundreds of speciatos catch eagerly at "Well--you did not recognize the

brow. Oh, my God?" he conunued, face-did you the form?-the garment oner's fate. -any thing?" The witness stammered, hesitated,

I strove to speak, Words cannot tell that he could not swear positively to the now deeply I seel for him. It is touch-identity of the body, and to behold a woman's anguish, but is "Did you not," said the hawk eyed

ike Laocoon, with the fold he cannot running his eye over it, "did you not igid, indescribable expression of his to be the body of Mr. Wilson you knew now!"

The man rubbed his hands together, oen a child, yet the struggle is over, cast a restless look at the deposition, Better men then I have rotted in prison and at last faltered out 'that he guessed and why, should I complain? But he had said something like that, though what it was exactly he could not tell.' 'You may leave this stand,' thunder-

relatives and friends of the deceased, minor facts, all to however strengthen cr's fate forever. hazard to convict him. Pity seemed At last they were done, and there was equence. With a firm voice he laid thicker as they drew nearer and nearer to be dried up in their bosoms. The a mutual exchange of intelligence in the cause before the jury, never suffer- to the end. The last man was about twice forwarded the intelligence in

contributed to deepen to an unusual degree the interest at all time attending a character of the accused. We admitted
trial for marder, and long before the there was much to create suspicion atrial for marder, and long before the there was much to create suspicion athat there seemed a mystery about the about to answer. whole village was alive with persons gers of presumptive evidence, and ap- but he did not think the discrepancies

er, until the ample room was filled, and his addressing the jury, we had hoped that the body found was that of Mr. le hundreds of eager faces peered from the that some information, though trady Wilson. With you gentleman, it re-

the windows were blocked up by the been seen after the hour of the suppos-multitude; and without the court-yard ed murder,—but when none came, and liberations remember his former charac-from the prisoner's wife. Men leeked was overflowing with hundreds, waiting the order of the cause compelled him ter, and that he is entitled to every doubt astonished and a faint murmur of apdifficulties which threatened to over- emn duty to preform in which a fellow The prisoner entered with a firm step, whelm his cause. He knew the testis creature's life is at stake. Mine is now not, but at this moment as if echoing "Well, it is a mockery, this justice," and audaunted look, and taking his seat mony was almost unanswerable, and done. I dismiss you to you's; and may the cry, a solitary voice was heard far he exclaimed bitlerly, 'after all. A chain in the ber bowed to the judge, ran his that his own conviction of the prisoners God Almighty guide you wight" off through the open windows, apparent of fortitous circumstances will happen, eye a moment proudly round the room, innocence would wiegh nothing with the and where are well Little did I think and dropped it to the ground before the jury. At first he faltered, and was emwhen I first entered life, buoyant with eager goze of thousands of spectators. barrassed. But he soon recovered himhope and burning for distinction, that His sweet wife had resisted every enmy sun should ever set in a felon's death. traty to be absent, and now sat by his
maintained his reputation. He felt that
smothered sob, as of a feeling of sus-I know what you would vay," contine side, classing his hand, and gazing up it was no common cause; and that a used he, with startling energy, as I very into his face, as the trial proceeded, with ture to express a hope I scarcely felt, that deep trusting look, which seemed that I would, deceive me to say that if all the world described his as to the result of the trial. I have no shorts least would cling to him through that logic, or rhetoric, or deep feelings felt it was no time for idle talk. Every evidence, -I can get none, oven your woe, and shame, and misery, ave! even could do, was done. As he procee- eye was directed to the group in the bar- tinued thunder. efforts have failed, -I am hanted down to death itself. The aged judge upon ded the interest became intense. He But the bearing of the prisoner was as by a powerful and vindictive family, - the bench, who had known both her dwelt upon the spotless character of the unruffled as ever, and no sign betoken- jurymen looked in wonder at one snoththe net of a relentless fate is around me, and her husband in better days, turned accused, his lofty scorn at the charge ed that like all around him he felt the er and the judge. The judge in mute and all I can de will be to submit calm- his head away, and did not disdain a of murder, his behaviour at and after terrible suspense. - Calmly, and self astonishment ran his keen eye over the the arrest, the contradiction and miss- collected he sat winding his arm around crowd towards the entrance, where the could bear it all, were it not for Mary. The trial began. The jury was em- tatements of the witness, the want of the slendor form of his wife; while that uproar seemed concentrating, while the It will break her heart. Poor, poor pannelled, the indictment read, and the certainty as to the reality of the murder; wife burying her face in his bosom, attorney general grasping the rails of thing," he continued softened almost to prisoner arraigned. He plead "not and the various topics which arouse pity waited breathlessly for the word which his box, gezed up at the bench and totears, "she scarcely thought when she guilty," put himself upon God and his or that could excite admiration for his was to restore him to life, or send her ward the tumultuous entrance in eilent first whispered her trembling yow, that country, and then the clerk, in the so- client, or raise a doubt as to the identi- broken hearted to the grave, he who won that sinless heart should lemn response of the law, answered, ty of the body. In commenting upon die amarderer's dearth. But let it come "God send you a good deliverance!" the contradictions of the evidence he verdict was made up, and following his proud tofty eye upon the doorway. -whe boots it how many hearts are There was a thrill of sympathy ran was unsually severe. He spread no him with slow and solemn steps the still shielding his wife, whose color through the crowd & hundreds of hearts weapen, omitted no appeal, but seathing, jury entered the box. He ceased. I felt awed by the terrific echoed the pious wish blasting and withering as he spoke, scatenergy of his manner, and for some time The opening speech of the prosecus tered the testimony of his witness to as shough a spell had been upon me, tor's attorney new began, and nothing ashes. As he warmed in his theme his the countenances of one or other of sands without seemed swayed by some I gould not speak. It was indeed a. could have been more artful and effec- voice grew louder, his eye kindled, his them generally betokens, in an exciting fearful eight. Hour after hour, for ma- tive. Not content with staring the ev- form dilated, his gestures become more trial, the result of their deliberations. my a long day had his feelings, stung idence against, my client, he dwelt' re- impassioned, until finally he had fired But in vain did I scan them now; Save by injustice, been goading one another torically upon the virtues of the eceas- his hearers with a portion of his own a solem, awful responsibility depicted thing. All was suspense. Then thes in his bosom, and had now found vent ed, the history of the prisoner's mare feelings, carrying them away before his on the face, there was nothing either of In this burst of mighty passion. At last riage, and the benefits likely to accure imprecous eloquence. When as he hope or fear,
I ventured to speak. to him from Mr, Wilson's murder. I concluded; he pointed to a group in the As the prisoner was ordered, accor-"You cannot, Duval, mistrust, me," saw Duvul's eye dash an instant, but I said, "and I feel that you look at your then all was again calm. The attorney the eager interest with which that lovely look upo the jury, a convuisive quiv r cause too hopelessly. Your innocence took his seat, and, from the altered wife watched every step of the trial; past across the face of his wife, and then will be mainled, a good God will never countenance of the jury, I felt that the and when he delicately hinted at her with breathless interes; she gazed upon the form of a man was seen elevated on suffer the guilty to escape, and, believe tide was turning against the accused, hopes and feare alternating with almost the event. me another month will restore you to My heart tailed me, for I knew that every word; and when, by sudden transociety, and that faithful wife to happi- the evidence was terribly strong, and sision, he brough before the jury anoth ness. It wrings my heart to see you that we had none or little to rebut it, er and higher bar at which they would is Henry Duval, the prisoner at the thus. Do not, I beseech you distrust Though I spent some days in scouring answer for their verdict, a thrill ran bar, guilty or not guilty in manner and the all-seeing Providence. He will yet the coast, enquiring if Mr. Wilson had through the assembly, which was sucrebuke your enemies: and maintain your been seen prosecuting his journey after ceeded as he sat down by a pause of the hour of the supposed murder, I had fearful suspense. The excited specta-"I think you," he answered, clas- been wholly unsuccessful, My col- tors were carried away with one uniping my hand, "and I feel rebuked. lengue shook his head and, with a versal desire for the prisoner's acquit-For once I have been weak, but, yours mournful look, unfolded his papers. The tel; while the prisoner's wife, silently has been the only mortal, eye to see it, curtain, was already shadowing the pressed his hand, looking up into his Though her sweet eyes swam with tears swer of the foreman seems prolonged

It is singular what a change a few lovely young wife, had awakened an interest in their favor, which made the any ray of hope, But alas! it was not they who were the arbiters of the pris-

The argument of the prosecution now began, and was a most masterly dislooked uneasily around, and confessed play. Carefull eulogiz ng the eloquence of my colleague till he had done way its power in the minds of the jury, he proceeded to narrate evidence in counsellor, producing a deposition and detail, but so carefully connecting it with the former history of my client. se to create the impression that the deed was not only one of malice, but of countenance, as after a momentary it to be shorter? On your oath-think a thirst for gold. He then boldly taunted us with our want of evidence, and the known exertions we had made to obtain it. In conclusion, after dwellling upon the character of the deceased. he recapitulated the testimony again; the jury individually for their opinio welding incident, until the chain seemed perfectly irresistible. All this time As a matter of course it took place in ed my colleague finging down his pa- by an apparent candor, and a show of doubt. The right is not always exa After a vain attempt, to cover their he had been sapping the jury's sympa- required it. ment had perhaps never reigned in that witnesses the prosecution gave in evi- they for the defence. He set down and vicinity. The history of the accused dence, from an examination of the skull, a murmur of impatience ran through the emply, how say you, is the prisoner at was well known and men trembled be- that the blow was by a blunt instrument court. In short, as the trial approached the bar, guilty or not guilty in the manneath their wish for his acquittal and frabturing that portion of the frame. the end; the suspense growing intoler- ner and form as he stands indicted." their almost conecton ness of his guilt. The fight, as they called it, for the prist able. The interest was intense. A With a large portion, however, mostly oner was proved, and various other few moments would decide the prison- terrible calmass.

Pion the Philadelphia Casket, for September, tree, the bar, the beach, and looked imight arrive, accounting for the absence mains to say whether, under, all the certain the man was murdered—as Pvs A LEAF PROM A LAWYER'S down from the gallery above. Even of Mr. Wilson, or at least that he had circumstances, the prisoner at the bar is

'How say you gentleman of the jury, said the clerk in the usual formality, form as he stands indicted?"

The imoment that follows this is o the most intense suspense. All the hopes and lears that the prisoner or his frends have cherished during a long and harrassing trial are then brough to a crisis, and the instant clapsing beface with a conscionances of triumph. tween the clerk's question and the aninto an age. This feeling too prevadas the spectators, and on the present occasion it had been wrought up to the moments, in the progress of a trial will highest pitch. A silence like death the victim. But better death than im- pered it to me colon, we who conduc- audience. Like the ocean they are judge advancing from his seat, stood lmost imperceptible quivering of the the trembling form of his wife. All this in a moment the eye took in; for years seemed crowded into seconds. 'Guilty,' said the foreman in a law, solemn tone, but which, so strained was the attention, was heard distincly in the father corner of the apartment.

One wild, fearless shrick, ran through the crowded room, and then all was again as still as death. It was the prismer's wife.

The judge hastily drew his hand across his eyes and said to the clerk in a busky voice.

'Poll them-every man!"

It is a merciful provision of the law, It thus secures him the benefit of any change of sentiment, and prevents all the greatest tenderness and liberality, led, but the judge in this case himself

John Fletcher,' said the clerk sol-

And so they continued one by one.

most able counsel of the bar had been the jury box, which went like an ice- ing his sympathy for the prisoner to in- to answer, when I cast a hurried look capture to his friends, but ing his sympathy for the prisoner to in- to answer, when I cast a hurried look capture to his friends, but the larger with his impartiality as a judge, at my client. But though his features of war had prevented its and while dwelling long and carrently were rigidly set. not a muscle of his last he was exchanged. an array of talent was never scarcely

We followed and opened our defence. and while dwelling long and earnestly were rigidly set, not a muscle of his last be was exchanged, brought against a single man. All these Our evidence was slight, and only cal
upon the character of the accused, giv- countenance betokened fear. His half his horror on reaching the character of the accused, giv-

'George Holcombe,' said the clerk, ings were coy the letter to Dr. how say you, is the prisoner at the were left todar

The man looked undecidedly around from young, jostling and crowding each oth- colleague made. Up to the moment of mony of three unimpeachable witness, prisoner, and then with an imploring the look at the foreman and judge, replied, 'I-can't find him guilty-I am not

A stiffed sob of hysteric joy broke

What might have ensued I know

Every man started to his feet. The wonder. The prisoner himself started, went and came like the shadow of a sum mer landscape.

The uproar despened. The thoutempest of sudden passion, but amid their loud cries and wild shouts it was impossible for a time to distinguish any clear, giant voice rung out again over all the thunder of the crowd, 'make way, make way-make way;' the loose masses in the doorway for an instant sway. ed to and fro, as if some one was struggling ineffectually to enter; and directly the shoulders of the mob, it was borne through the entrance and there, in the bar, not two feet from the prisoner, in full life and health, though travel-soiled, stood James Wilson, the very man for whose trial my client was arraigned.

What a moment followed! For an in stant the uproar ceased, and men gazed i awe and wonder at the new comes is if he were a spectre from the dead, while the prisoner, who had stood every intruder's arm, gazed a monent wildly to his face, and gasping, 'Thank Gud!' fell back trembling into the arms of my colleague.

The silence lasted but a moment, Hundreds simultaneously recognized Wilson, and overcome with gladness at the wished for innecence of the prisoner lost all thought of the place and broke out in a universal shout. A swhirlwind of a prison, to see no sun rise of set, to "Are you certain than this was the hear no more the birds sing out their body of Wilson-you say it was disfig- that are breakin, at the event. But it other as they rose backward from the room; from bar and iury box, area and bar, and looked eagerly down upon the gallery men startled up in frantic joy. ilent jurymen. The prisoner alone be- and while grey haired sires waved their okened no enxiety; for save a slight and palsied arms on high, a roar of tumultuoue applause erose, which shook the nes of the mouth, he was as calm and old building like an earthquake, and collected as ever. One arm rested on caught up by the thousands without, he chair and the other wound aroud rolled from voice to voice, and crowd to crowd, until the very welkin trembled again. Never shall I forget it. All command of the faculties seemed lost, and a sympathetic excitement shot, like wild fire, from breast to breast.

It was ten minutes before the uproar was checked. Judge, bar, clerk and ell, though used to such scenes, were moved to tears, and when the attorney gen eral rose, his voice trembled so that he could scarcely speak.

But why dwell on this picture, As the verdict had not been given in, and is fifty men could testify to the person of the new comer, the formalities of proof were soon gone through with, and which gives a prisoner a right of asking the prisoner acquitted. The transition was too great for his faithful wife. She was carried from the court room in a. fainting fit, to the house of the and for a long time her life was ding intred of. But she recovered, and a conce, lies being never smiled upon prose to the From thenceforth, thank Godd it enable was a stranger to her bosom.

Mr Wilson's tale was short and the told. After parting with Duval has in the proceeded on his journey, fallen a keeps

'Guilty,' an wered the foreman, with proceeded on his journey, fallen he keeps a marauding party of British as facture, been wounded, taken prisoner, his worke there was a firm persuasion of his criming the suspicion against him. My massive, and a determination at every heart died within me as they proceeded, hazard to convict him. Pity seemed At last they were done, and there was equence. With a firm voice he laid thicker as they drew nearer and nearer with his countrymen. He his product that the process of the deceased, minor facts, all to nowever strengthen. My there was a firm persuasion of his crimination at every heart died within me as they proceeded, was long talked of afterward for its elements. Many a breath came with his countrymen. He has the process of the p